

# *THE KALIFORNSKI*



**NEWSLETTER OF THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**  
**P.O. BOX 226 – WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95077**  
**(A NON-PROFIT – NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)**

**EDITORS:**  
**Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud**  
**Nina Matulich**

**AUTUMN 2009**





# Have a bountiful Thanksgiving

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Hello Everyone!**

*A total of 323 people were served at the BBQ Picnic in Corralitos on Sunday, July 12, 2009. Included were the guests of SACO - 4 scholarship recipients, 8 parents of the recipients, and the 7 musicians of the Novi Stari Tamburiza. Great job Carolyn Bahr and your fine musicians!*

*Many thanks go out to the helpers – Nina Matulich on reservations, Mary Marinovich Siefke on drink tickets, Helen Marinovich Ukestad, Charles Ukestad and Norma Hansen on raffle tickets. Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud on dessert serving and decorations, and Linda Wathen Espejo on door table help. The raffle helpers calling out the numbers were Stephanie Peckham and Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud. More thanks go out to the bartenders – John Vodanovich and Michael Selak. Our next event will be on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at the Watsonville Woman's Club. See you there!*

**STEVE BELICK**

## S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

**President – Steve Belick – 477-7523**

**Vice-President – Peter Kovacich – 724-0071**

**Treasurer – Jo Franich Puhera – 724-8930**

**Recording Secretary – Linda Wathen Espejo – 724-2892**

**Financial/Corresponding Secretary – Nina Matulich – 724-7971**

## UPCOMING EVENT

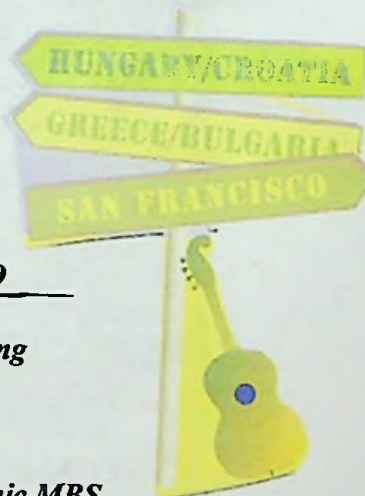
**December 12, 2009 - Saturday - Christmas Dinner**

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

**October 18, 2009, Sunday, the San Francisco Croatian Festival "Keeping the Tradition Alive!"**

**November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 - Kolo Festival**

**These events are held at the Croatian American Cultural Center-Slavonic MBS  
60 Onondaga Avenue, San Francisco, CA (near Alemany & Balboa BART) For more  
information, call 510-649-0941 or visit [www.CroatianAmericanWeb.com](http://www.CroatianAmericanWeb.com)**







## WELCOME - NEW S.A.C.O. MEMBERS

*Steve & Kerry Ruso Stringari - Watsonville, CA*  
*Diane Pelich Bei - LaSelva Beach, CA*



## IN MEMORIUM

*John Franusich*  
*94 years - July 5, 2009 - Watsonville, CA*  
*Husband of Lucille (Gig)*

*Nick Mekis*  
*84 years - August 12, 2009 - Long Beach, CA (born & raised in Watsonville)*  
*Son - Kurt*  
*Daughter - Jayme*  
*Brother - Andy Mekis - Santa Cruz, CA*  
*Sister - Helen Mekis Ostoja - Hollister, CA*



## CORRESPONDENCE



*To Everyone:*

*Thank you so very much for mailing me "The Kalifornski". I enjoy it so much!*  
*I read it from cover to cover. I miss Watsonville and the wonderful Slavic people.*  
*Good luck to you in all your endeavors.*

*Sincerely,*  
*Helen Zvane Litten*  
*Alamosa, CO*

**BBQ Picnic**  
**Sunday, July 12, 2009**

**S.A.C.O**  
**Karen Belick**  
**Jody Eiskamp**  
**Gladys Rodrigues**  
**Cathy Pekoch Schimpler**  
**Mary Marinovich Siefke**  
**Jacqueline Zadravec**  
**Judy Hager**  
**Lillian Jercich Nielsen**  
**Linda Wathen Espejo**

## DESSERTS

**JoFranich Puhera**  
**Joyce Kalich**  
**Mary Lipanovich**  
**Nina Matulich**  
**Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud**  
**Helen Marinovich Ukestad**  
**Lucille Matiasovich Giorvas**  
**Sharon Alaga**  
**Sandy Jurach**  
**Genevieve Simunovich**







DESSERTS - continued

Gayle Gospodnetich Weakland  
 Lucille Deretich  
 Kathryn Zar Copriviza  
 Jan Rains  
 Betty Jones  
 Ann Dabo  
 Mary Pilo

Linda Pavlovich  
 Ann Gizdich  
 Lorraine Jurach  
 Peter Harris  
 Bob Leonardich  
 Frances Matulich Osorio  
 Franka Colendich



PRIZES

S.A.C.O.  
 Frank Sieraski  
 Diane Robey  
 Anne Lukrich Dobler  
 Helen Marinovich Ukestad  
 Sharon Alaga  
 Bill Resetar  
 Luann Copriviza Niebling  
 Genevieve Simunovich  
 Linda Pavlovich (strawberries)  
 Betty Jones  
 Ann Dabo  
 Gary Gospodnetich  
 John Lukrich  
 Alex Solano (strawberries)

Pat Godpodnetich Solano  
 Norma Hansen  
 John Vodanovich  
 Betty Kesovia Bobeda  
 Jacqueline Zadravec  
 Lillian Jercich Nielsen  
 Frances Matulich Osorio  
 Linda Wathen Espejo  
 Jan Rains  
 Peter Harris  
 Mark Sambrailo  
 Steve Belick  
 Martin Gizdich  
 Jim Dutra (rasberries)  
 California Giant (strawberries)

Thank  
 You  
*Nina Matulich*



## APTOS HIGH SCHOOL

"Home of the Mariners"

100 Mariner Way, Aptos, CA 95003-9603  
 (831) 688-6565 • FAX: 688-6430 • WEB SITE: [www.aptoshs.net](http://www.aptoshs.net)



To: Mr. Antonio Violich,

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the students, faculty, and administration of Aptos High School for your valuable contribution to the future educational endeavors of our graduating seniors.*

*I am pleased to announce that our seniors were awarded over \$1.2M in scholarship monies this year and \$390,000 came from generous contributions and support of our local community.*

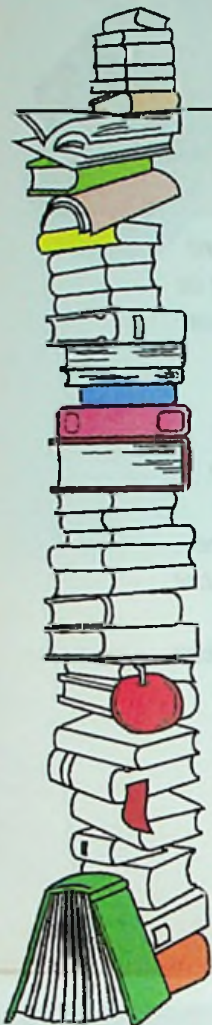
*It was my pleasure to have your organization participate in recognizing and honoring the success achieved by our students. Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support to the Mariner community.*

Sincerely,

Casey O'Brien  
 Principal







## **THANK YOU NOTES FROM THE 2009 SACO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



**Dear SACO,**

*Thank you very much for the generous scholarship. I have already started school at Brooks Institute of Photography and the scholarship will come in very handy.*

*Thank You,  
Nikole Simmons*

**Dear SACO members,**

*My father, John Basor was one of the founders of SACO and I am very proud of my heritage and where I came from. I will be attending UC Santa Cruz in September with a major in Psychology. Thank you so much for giving me the scholarship. It will be very helpful and I appreciate it very much!!*

*Hvala Puno!  
Luci Basor*

**Dear SACO,**

*I would like to thank you very much for the generous scholarship you have awarded me. It is an honor to receive your gift as I am very proud of my Croatian heritage.*

*Sincerely,  
Natalya Valdivia*

*It was appreciated more than you know.*

**Dear Mr. Violich & Slavic American Cultural Organization:**

*I would like to thank the Slavic American Cultural Organization for this scholarship because it has helped and I hope it keeps helping people like me who want to have a chance at a good education. This scholarship will help me pay part of my college education at Cabrillo College. I really appreciate it because in a way it motivates me knowing that there are people out there who really want me and others to succeed. With this money I hope to accomplish my goals of obtaining a career in the law enforcement field.*

*Thank you once again.*

*Sincerely,  
David Katich*



07-12-09

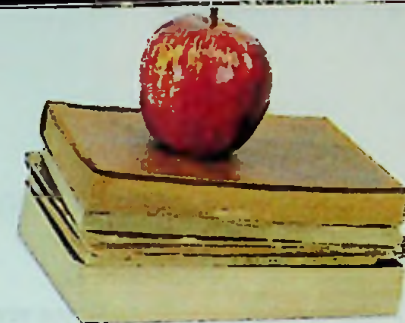


**The Scholarship Recipients are-**  
*Nikole Simmons      Luci Basor  
 Natalya Valdivia      Taylor Tushar  
 David Katich*





# 2009



## Continued - Scholarship Recipients Thank You's:

*Dear Slavic Cultural Organization,*

*Thank you so much for the generous \$500.00 scholarship. I am excited to find out where this up coming year will take me. As you know, I am going to be majoring in biochemistry at Seattle Pacific University. I am going to study biochemistry to meet the prerequisites for medical school and because of my passion for the natural sciences. The money will surely not go to waste as I plan to buy textbooks to enhance my school work.*

*The annual picnic that you guys hosted was amazing. The food was great, but in my opinion, the company was even better. It was cool to finally meet people who come from similiar ethnic backgrounds and talk about the effects of Slavic culture on our lives. I hope that I will be able to return to the picnic next year and bring the rest of my family because I am sure they would have had an awesome time.*

*Thanks again for the college support. As I look forward to this fall, I will remember all the people that have helped me to get to the stage I am at today and consider myself blessed. I am very grateful to have found an organization that I can be a part of in my later years and never have I been proud to call myself Slovenian.*

*Sincerely,  
Taylor Tushar*



## WHEN YOU TRAVEL..... TIPPING IN EUROPE

*Here are some tips on tipping in Europe from Wanda S. Radetti of Tasteful Croatian Journeys in New York City. She says, "if you're left wondering what to tip where, and when to put down dollars, euros, or local currency, one rule applies across the board". "Tip in cash", not on a credit card. If you don't, the server won't necessarily get it.*

*In CROATIA AT RESTAURANTS - if you're ordering just coffee or a drink, leave the change. For a quick, casual dinner at a konoba, as taverns are called, leave about \$1.00. For dinner in a nice restaurant where tips usually aren't included, leave about 10-15%.*

*AT HOTELS - Concierges aren't common, but tip them \$5.00 if they do something special for you. Cleaning staff get a few dollars per day in an envelope at the end of your stay; bellboys get \$1.00 per bag. You might also want to leave the dining room breakfast staff \$5.00 at stay's end if they've taken good care of you.*

*GUIDES AND DRIVERS - Tip them seperately 10-20% per day. With taxi drivers, just leave the change. Dollars aren't accepted so much now, so use euros. P.S. - If you're sailing the Croatian coastline, at the end of you're trip, leave about \$50.00 per person for the skipper and about 15-20% to the total cost of the journey for the kitchen staff, if there is one.*





# CROATIA



*Wanda S. Radetti returns to her native Croatia four or five times a year to continue exploring the 1,185 islands off the country's coast. She can point you towards Istria's most savory truffles, introduce you to the lamp-lighter who uses a long wick to illuminate the gaslights of Zagreb's Old Town, and wrangle invites to the Grand Masked Ball in the Carnival city of Rijeka.*

**Source:**  
*Conde Nast Travel*  
*Magazine July, 2009*

**Submitted by:**  
*Nina Matulich*



## CROATIA - AN ADRIATIC IDYLL

*"Turning back time in a stone house from the 15<sup>th</sup> century"*

*At an architectural firm in New York, an architect of Croatian descent had returned from Croatia visiting his grandfather there. He brought back to the firm tales of unspoiled coastal beauty. With all that, the partners of the firm (architect and interior designer and landscapes) were soon on a plane to Croatia to buy and restore. They found a charming cottage on an island off Croatia. The residence was part of a compound that overlooked the harbor. The centerpiece of the compound was a two-story stone merchant's house that had bones, and only bones. It was a well proportional 15<sup>th</sup>-century shell, the original interior had deteriorated and needed considerable care. The partners had embarked on an extensive restoration that became, for a year, the village's favorite topic of conversation. The townspeople enjoyed the ringside seat at the port (while sipping on their favorite drinks) as all the construction materials and furniture arrived on the mainland ferry. Everything had to be hand-carried 156 steps up the hill to the site. The solitary donkey-Henrietta quit on the job! That donkey is now free-range, and with the construction completed, she now likes to linger outside the tall stone wall that fences the enclave. They wanted to keep the shapes simple and direct, as though the house has always been there, untouched. They used handmade Tuscan terra-cotta roof and floor tiles and preserved and enhanced the stone walls. Because there was little left of the original interior to restore, it gave them the opportunity to create large, open spaces within the 1,500 square foot shell. In the living room, the 15<sup>th</sup>-century carved stone recessed water sink and shelf "contrasts with the modern steel fireplace hood, which was handmade in Croatia". The dining room is situated at the center of the house, with terrace and island views on one side and a citrus court on the other. To totally enjoy the view and breezes, they placed the living room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and placed the kitchen and dining room downstairs, with French doors opening onto the gardens which include carob, olive and lemon trees. Absolutely beautiful!!!*

### **SOURCE:**

*Architectural Digest (International Magazine of Design) August 2009*

dining room



living room



Henrietta-lovar  
 (donkey)

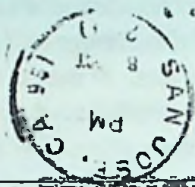




DATED MATERIAL - Please Rush



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